

NTID Offers Visual Basic and Java Workshops for Deaf

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Two new information technology workshops designed for and available only to deaf and hard-of-hearing people, are being offered at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT).

The five-day workshops, Object-Oriented Programming Using Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0, offered April 30-May 4, and Introduction to Java Programming, offered May 7-11, are part of the Deaf Initiative in Information Technology (DIIT) project, supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, and are held in NTID's state-of-the-art DIIT classrooms. Additional workshops are planned for 2001 and 2002.

"Having the perspective of other deaf adults while learning new software and technology was very beneficial," said Patrick Murray, a product tester at IBM in Austin, Texas, who attended the first DIIT workshop, Creating Web Sites with FrontPage 2000. "Each participant shared their experiences from the work world and built a solid network of people who could support each other in the future."

Registration is limited to 12 attendees for each workshop, and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost of each week-long workshop is \$550. For information on the workshops or to register, call 716/475-2225 (v/TTY) contact the program's e-mail address at diit@rit.edu or visit the Web site at <http://www.rit.edu/diit>.